

Newsletter

October Issue

## NEW SGA PRESIDENT VOWS BIG CHANGES!!!



Gregory St. Dick poses after winning SGA presidential election. Story Page. 2







#### Interview with Gregory St. Dick

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**Back Cover** 

So, how does it feel to be the winner of the Presidential election?

Greg: Great!

Now that you are President, what are your plans?

Greg: Well, one is to continue with my plan to lower textbook prices.

My plan that I want is to aid any student who is seriously committed to social change on this campus. I also would like to try to set up some Cal-stat (hand sanitizers) around the school, at least one by every entrance door. I would also like to get students more socially active.

How do you plan on accomplishing these goals?

**Greg:** For one, I am the leader of the textbook initiative for state colleges to pass the house textbook bill H.R.1262. This bill, if passed in January, will force publishers to give professors as well as students an explanation on the difference between its new edition and its previous edition. This bill will also annihilate the shrink wrap (which is when publishers sell additional material with the textbook for a higher price), and it will encourage all colleges and universities to set up book buyback programs on their campuses. On our own campus, I will talk to faculty to encourage them to turn in their book orders on time, so we students can be allowed to sell back our books to the bookstore.

Also, I am currently discussing with SGA about a book swap program for students. For my second plan, I personally will be involved in as many clubs and campus functions as possible.

Does this mean you will be at the parties?

Greg: And you know this man!

You have been involved with many student activities for a long time. Why is that?

**Greg:** I'm involved in many student activities because I believe college or any higher institution is a temple for intellectuals. Knowing that, I believe for one to grow, he or she must surround themselves with people who are like-minded. Also, RCC is in our community and we should respect this institution like it's our own home. This is why I stay active.

So I see we have a lot in common, when it comes to RCC...

Greg: Of course, great minds think alike

You seem like you are serious, but because of your fun and charismatic personality many people don't take you seriously...

**Greg:** Anyone who sits with me one on one can see that I am very serious about my views and my steps to accomplish my goals. But I won't lie to you, I am not a square.

How do you think this year will be as opposed to the previous one?

**Greg:** Well, I think that this year's SGA is more ready for serious changes on our campus, and with the help of both the student body and faculty, we will have more to show to our fellow students that we serve than the previous year.





#### **EDITORIAL**

Djeriny Lobo-Delaney

#### The Respect In You

In this year of 2006, there have been many new trends, but no new trend hits me like the one where women feel like they have to be disrespected to receive attention or acknowledgement. What happened to the women who carried themselves with such character and class?

Growing up in a Cape Verdean home, headed by a strong, intelligent Creola (Cape Verdean woman), I had no choice but to be the same. There are many habits that can be picked up from our parents and our society. If a woman has no respect for her body and her inner beauty, no one else will respect her.

Our great-grandmothers, who fought so hard in order for women to have the same rights as men, must be rolling around in their graves by the way women are treating themselves today. Why do some women prefer to have a man with a Mercedes and bling than a man who is going to be there and show them respect? What happened to the "wifey material" women, the ones men wouldn't be afraid to bring home to their mothers?

Often when I meet couples who have been married for 50 something years, I am astounded. There is a beauty in women who held their identities, their sacredness so close, for so long. Maybe if women today had idols like Isis instead of Lil' Kim, the absurd tags for us would be unheard of. How does a woman half dressed, shaking her assets while she watches BET, teach her daughter about being a woman with character?

It seems as though I was raised in a different era. The future of the young rests in our hands, and as mothers, brothers, uncles, people in general, we must all step forward and pick up those who are falling. Learning how to be a responsible adult is just the genesis of building the respect in you.



#### Professor Petty has Plans for Broadcast Media!

By Denice Badgett Staff Reporter

For those of you that don't know who Professor Petty is, he is the youngest and first Tenured Professor of Broadcast Media Technology at Roxbury Community College. He wrote the curriculum for the Broadcast Media Department in 1995.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Production and Engineering from Berklee College of Music and a Master of Science Degree in Broadcast Administration/Television Management from Boston University.

Professor Petty is upgrading the BMT studio for his students with state of the art computers. The upgrade will allow the students to complete projects with ease. Professor Petty says, "Nothing's too good for my students. . . they deserve the best." They got new Apple Computers

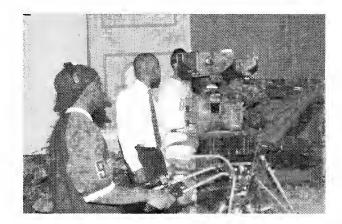
The Broadcast Media Course taught by Professor Petty consists of:

Intro to Video Editing
Intro to Producing and Directing
T.V. Production
Video Techniques
Advance Video Editing
Advance T.V. Production

Upon completion of the course students will have learned how to operate audio boards, switchers, studio cameras, character generators, intercom systems, various video tape machines, news gathering skills, field cameras, microphones placements, staging, audio mixing, editing lighting, mark and edit clips, create transitions and much more.

If you are interested in the BMT department or you just want to check out the facilities, please feel free to stop by the Media Arts Building, Bldg #1 in the basement.







Gonzalez Reflects on RCC's History

By: Gregory St. Dick, Staff Reporter

Jessica Gonzalez, Assistant Athletic Director for Roxbury Community College, talked about the history of RCC and how this institution came a long way.

"In 1979, we were down in Dudley, in an abandoned nuns' home," Gonzalez said. "We didn't have much, but we were all very close. We had excellent professors that cared for our education." She talked about her close relationship with fellow classmates and professors.

But RCC was in need of a new location. The campus on Blue Hill Avenue and Dudley Street was in poor condition. "We sat in class with umbrellas on rainy days, because of the holes in the ceilings." The school then moved to a new location. "We moved to Huntington Avenue in 1980. Students moved furniture on MBTA buses," she Gonzalez said. As she explained the move to Huntington Avenue, I began to think about how much dedication students before us had for this school.

The Huntington location was just not a home for RCC, so students rallied and protested outside of the State

House. Ms. Gonzalez explains this emotional time. "We cried for our own building. We protested in front of the State House in the snow and rain trying to get a home." Finally, RCC was granted their wish and moved to our current location on Columbus Avenue. "We moved in January of 1988."

"This is the only historically black college we have," Ms. Gonzalez replied when asked about the lack of respect to the campus by its own student body. "It burns my butt when I see paper on the ground, people writing on the walls. Being just disrespectful to the building."

When asked about our school being 'ghetto,' she states: "I take offense to it personally. RCC is the first school to go into the Basketball Hall of Fame."

As the interview was coming to an end, I asked her if she has any personal advice for me as the current Student Government president. She answered with the most serious face I've seen her express, "In the 80s and 90s, the student body was run by SGA. Stay strong; do not let them use you... Stick together for one thing. Don't let any outsiders influence you."



#### FACULTY SKIP PARTY

#### By Djenny Lobo, Editor

As I walked around the RCC building, I asked many students how they feel about teachers who don't show up. Many students responded, "I couldn't care less" and others stated, "Hey, less work for me and I get to go home early." I was rather amazed by their responses.

I didn't think there was any hope until I bumped into Crystel Wallace, who had this to say: "I know everyone likes a break sometimes, so naturally when the professor tells you that he is not going to hold class on Fridays even though classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, you get excited. While you're all excited, because it's a morning class and you don't have to get up as early, you don't realize that not having that class does not benefit your understanding of that specific subject. So, since I'm already confused in economics class, taking a class off every week has left me even more lost. Thanks, Professor, for being considerate to the student who registered for your class anticipating a Friday class."

At any given job one must call in or let whomever they are meeting with know that they will not be showing up. I guess here at Roxbury Community College, teachers don't have to make sure that their students are not waiting for a half an hour to an hour for them to show. I am talking from experience.

On a day like the first day or week for that matter, it would be mostly convenient and appreciated if teachers would show up to class, as the first few days of classes are generally filled with questions and confusion. "I woke up earlier this morning, to come all the way to class and two of my teachers are not here. I could have stayed home," a friend of mine named Tia commented about her first day of school.

Who can we talk to about this issue? Is there anyone who can fix this? Do the students have to start reporting the teachers? What about those professors who do show up, late of course, and then have the nerve to sit there and talk about their life stories instead of science? I can understand that building a community feel within the class may be essential, but there is money spent on books, tuition and, most importantly, time. The teachers who say, "10 more minutes" after every class would understand.

How do the students feel about teachers who don't show up? There are some mixed emotions, but overall, we are all adults and need to act accordingly.



Waking up on the ground Nothing in view Not a sound Feeling bricks, ice, as the bright sun beams down Squinting my eyes to realize, I just awoke To a brand new day, but in the same old smoke Getting up to my feet and dustin' off the dirt I see the day ahead waiting for me to flirt But not romantically Rather dauntingly Quite yet dangerously By now I can remember the day previously 11 years old and out of school The morning cold and a belly with no food Here in the beautiful city of L.A. Getting ready to survive my 11th day The 11th day I remember precise Because it matched my age and belt size Dressed like a true Chicano was little me A runaway that had no one, so tragically So many atmospheres away from dad and mom So many miles away from home So many feelings away from happiness Learning to deal with loneliness But, nonetheless Feeling strong, brave and in control Even though the long day lies ahead and I have nothing Of my own But just like I did the ten days before I will keep on surviving looking out for myself Through so much more

By: Alvaro Omar Larrama



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## Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month...

#### INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR VIRGILIO F. ACEVEDO

October being Hispanic Heritage Month, I sat down with two professors who had plenty to say about RCC, both being Hispanic/Latino and involved in Hispanic Heritage Month.

First, I sat with professor Amy-Moreno:

My first question to Amy-Moreno was, "How long have you been teaching here at RCC?" He has been here since 1975, which makes it 31 years." Professor Amy-Moreno teaches Sociology, History and Photography at RCC, and he is also a member of the Boston School Committee. As the conversation proceeded, I began to find out more interesting facts about RCC and Amy-Moreno.

When I asked Professor Amy-Moreno, a native Puerto Rican, what his challenges were when he first came to the United States, he responded, "That is a difficult question. I was teaching Humanities at the University of Puerto Rico for three years, and at the time I had to have a doctorate." Many people thought he was crazy for leaving Puerto Rico, but this is what helped him in making the decision to come to New York to get his Masters' and later, in 1975, to get his Doctorate from Boston University while teaching here at RCC.

"In 1975, there were more Hispanic students and very few whites (about four or five), but there were more Hispanics than there are today," he said. The reason for the decrease in Hispanic students, he believes, is that "back then many of us was implementing the first Spanish bilingual program in New England, which attracted many Hispanics, who were able to do courses like sociology, history and math in Spanish. Unfortunately, all of that has changed and we don't have a bilingual program anywhere now."

After learning a little history of RCC, I wanted to know if there were any connections between being Hispanic and his success. "I have a different way of viewing society. I have never attempted or seen myself as special or tried to get advantages because I am Latino, I would like to get appointed to a position for my experience or credentials rather than being Latino." Professor Amy-Moreno also expressed great concern with the lack of students taking liberal arts classes. When students are pushed to only do their pre-requisites, they usually miss out on learning about important history and facts.

I thought it was only right to ask Professor Amy-Moreno, if he had anything he would like to say to the students, and indeed he did. "I would hope that the students, when they come to RCC, would also have an opportunity to get themselves involved in SGA or other student activities, that would give them the opportunity to advance and grow. The advantage of coming to college is the opportunity to be exposed to and share different cultures, and beliefs and I think this is as important to academic success."

I sat down with Professor Virgilio Fernando Acevedo in his office. We shared some laughter and information on many different subjects regarding Hispanic Heritage Month.

**Djenny:** How long have you been here at RCC?

Acevedo: Six years

Djenny: Where are you from originally?

**Acevedo:** I am a Native of Puerto Rico, contrary to J. LO. (We laugh)

Djenny: How long have you been teaching?

Acevedo: I have thirty years experience in higher education and I also went to a community college. I have also taught at many universities, including Brandeis. Having gone to a community college, I believe in providing the students at community colleges with good quality history classes and I do not agree with poor standards in community colleges.

**Djenny:** I see that you will be performing during the Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations...

Acevedo: Yes, I will be lecturing on the importance of defining what a Hispanic or a Latino is. There is a problem with the two words, "Hispanic" and "Latino" and I will be clarifying that in the lecture, and people can make up their own interpretations on what they mean.

**Djenny:** What were some negative experiences for you?

Acevedo: The stereotypes of Puerto Ricans that I had to deal with very often. I was asked questions like, "How did I like the highways here from the ones in Puerto Rico, when Puerto Rico has superior looking highways?" (We laugh)! We are victims of our environment and that is why as an educator, I like to educate people about these stereotypes.

**Djenny:** What message would like to give to the students, about anything?

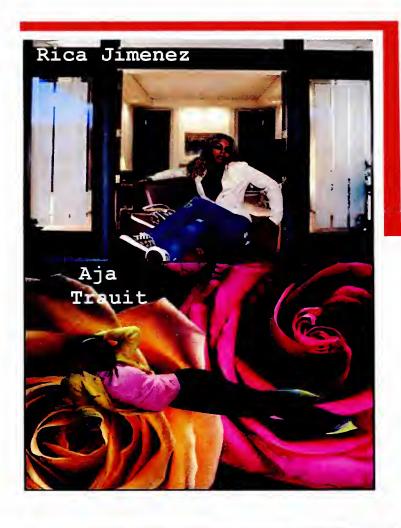
Acevedo: Work hard, have discipline. Work hard to learn and to do well, because that is the key to achieve what you want, there may be other factors but that is the key. It's how much knowledge you have rather than what's on paper. Priorities should be focusing on your degree and learning from your professors. It really is how good you are and how much you know at the end.

# Designed By: Corey S. What's Hotelatest January

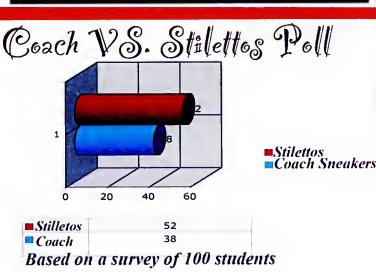
With the tide changing in fashion more frequent than gas prices fluctuate, how will you ever know what to wear? By the time you return home from the store with your new outfit, it's become yesterday' threads, a thing of the past, or something you would pass down to younger siblings. Just a while back we used to wear our gear until our knees were freezing from the holes in our jeans, but now we have this clean-cut, iced-out from your head to your socks era, that's taking the world by storm. Don't fret cause the Gateway Gazette is introducing a brand new section that will keep you in touch with the latest styles fashion has to offer. We cover the ins and outs of fashion with discussions on what to wear, how to accessorize, we show you the hottest gear for the lowest prices, and oh yeah, you know we can't leave without showing you our fashion disasters. Starting this fashion page we noticed quickly, people are at opposite sides of the spectrum, and that couldn't have been clearer when we conducted a poll just to see how people felt when they had to choose between either Stilettos, or Coach. Most women were puzzled trying to figure out they're response as if we asked, "how do they want to die?" It was true to their heart as if they would have

betrayed their best friend if they went the other way. I selected two of our own models to show us how the products are supposed to be worn if you're high in fashion (bottom left). Stilettos won by a slim margin, as the votes fluctuated to both

sides, but it was a fight to the finish. (Continued)









This month we are focused on accessorizing and coordination in terms of fashion and style. We had many candidates and came up with two winners to represent the GG. Let me start off with one of the most humble divas' I've ever met, Casey (who is pictured on pg 9.) Casey was selected from the Gazette for being the most accessorized for the month and staying consistent with it. From stilettos' to Louis Vuitton, with Casey it's been there done that. and done it right. We also have Manuel, (right) rockin' the conservative but stylish look of the month. Had to give it up to him cause he's done one thing a lot of brothers have come to forget, and that is "you gotta coooooordinate." From the sky to the floor he's staying fresh with the full Jordan look. The only thing I don't get is, "what's up with the finger?"

to wear

"Oh no no no no, baby no." (Pictured right) We have the fashion disaster of the month and man does it stink. Fashion lesson #1. I know you think it looks nice, but if you're not a footlocker runway model, or a referee "gone wild," leave the stripes to the zebras. (Anonymous donor)



# - Solitics-

#### Deval Patrick Wins Democratic Nomination

By David Palomares, Gazette Staff

Deval Patrick was a virtual unknown 18 months ago. Now he may be just weeks and votes away from winning the Governor's office. Not only would Deval be the first African-American to hold the state office, but also the first Democrat in over 16 years.

Deval won 50% of the Democratic votes, while Chris Gabrieli and Tom Reilly won only 27% and 23% respectively in the primary on September 18. Deval Patrick will face Republican candidate Kerry Healey, Independent candidate Christy Mihos, and Green Rainbow candidate Grace Ross, in this historical race that may elect our first female or African American governor.

The idea of a women governor has happened once before with Jane Swift who inherited the position after Paul Cellucci was chosen to be the United States Ambassador to Canada. At RCC a predominantly minority community college, the student body weighed in on the possibility of having a governor of color.

Shataia Rivera, an RCC student, says, "I feel he (Deval) is a good role model for the urban youth and can make change. I can trust him. He's one of us."

Batese Woodbarry also says, "He is a good role model." I asked him if Massachusetts is ready for an African American governor. He response was, "Sure, but *they* don't want it to happen." When I

asked him who "they" are, he responded: "The upper, upper, class, CEO, the special interest.

## How will Kerry Healey try to win the race?

- Rolling back the state income tax from 5.3% to 5% as voted for by the voters in 2000
- Lifetime parole for Level
   2 Sex Offenders
- Making housing affordable for first time buyers.

#### How will Deval Patrick try to win the race?

- Increase the Minimum Wage
- Cutting the Property tax
- Increase Funds to Cities and Towns.



Isis Gabriela, though undecided, wondered whether the new governor to take on health care, particularly health insurance. While having to pay \$800 for health insurance through the school and helping out her mother,

money is very tight for her. One day she injured her arm and went to the Emergency Room. Thinking all her medical bills would be covered under the school health insurance, she was shocked to see a \$200 bill from the ER. "I pay for college and help out my mom. I also have to pay for necessities for college."

Dr. Samuel Boadu, Senior Research Analyst, was asked his feeling on having the first African American governor. "I dismiss the race factor and listen more about his polices. To win the democratic primary gives him an edge. Now is the 'real thing' in the governor's race."

Whether Deval Patrick or Kerry Healey, First Female elected or First African American is just trivial, the issues, is what counts. On November 7 we will choose our new Governor, whoever wills will not have their race or gender to help them out when changing Massachusetts.

http://www.thebostonchannel.com/politics/9841966/detail.html

#### Too Left to be Right! By: Frenell Jean-Georges, Staff Reporter

Everyone wants to vote for the lesser of two evils. So we vote for the Devil, I mean Deval, Patrick, the so-called lesser of two evils, loving all his moderate liberal stances but not looking at his past history. It's questionable.

We can see his questionable business practice. Pay attention to the fact that he won the gubernatorial in the Democratic race by staying quiet and giving a Coke and a smile.

Speaking of Coke, what's up with his practices as vicepresident at Coca-Cola. He ran away from his human rights violation allegations in 2004, resigning when everything went public about the bad business, to save his public image. But evidence suggests that he continued with his business practices after he resigned. I guess you could say he was a real Coke dealer?

His former company had been accused of using paramilitary groups to force Colombians to work in Coca-Cola's bottling plants. Some might argue he did not know such practices might have occurred while under the mighty logo of Coca-Cola. Some would argue that maybe he did not have prior knowledge of these practices. But I would say, "How are you a V.P. and not know what is happening in your company?" One would have to ask the question, "What made you resign, anyway? Was it really to bow out gracefully or take the pressure off you?"

We all know that he is "gassed," but this is ridiculous. Deval lets off a lot of gas, making us real liberals look bad by smiling, avoiding speaking his stance on real issues. Deval, what's up with your practices at Texaco? I thought you believed in Affirmative Action. I never thought you would be the quota to let these guys of the hook. Not to mention Texaco destroying rain forests in Ecuador; but we know which type of green Patrick was trying to protect! It's bad enough you defend Coca-Cola on human rights violations, but Texaco – why? Why take the top law position at a company with a history of discrimination against minority workers?

Is Patrick only with civil rights when it's convenient? It wasn't convenient on the Board of Ameriquest, huh? Predatory lending to minorities? It's people like Patrick that keeps me in debt. Paying these crazy interest rates, that's like 50 dollars for a candy bar I had last week.

Patrick defended a company that borrowed money to poor, low income mothers of color. Who could defend practices like that? straight. Ameriquest gives money to poor families that can't afford the interest. Then those people pay Ameriquest, who then, in turn, owns the house. That's called "rent," people, not "mortgage."

The funny thing is I'd probably still vote for you over Healey because under her we'd all be in electric chairs, and she's a moderate Republican. 'Yeesh!'

## Opinion Editorial

Illegal immigration for or against?

Against Illegal Immigration by William Larson, RCC Staff

I am an American hourly wage earning, tax paying citizen, who doesn't think it's racist to be against illegal immigration.

Illegal immigration hurts Americans, no matter what color or nationality they are, and I know white, black, Spanish, and Asian Americans who feel the same way. One thing liberal people are famous for saying is they are only doing the jobs Americans won't do. How could that be? It was just a couple of years ago these same people were saying the country was having a jobless recovery. So now we have 12 million jobs to give away.

There are many ways Americans and legal immigrants are hurt by illegal aliens. First are the ever increasing property taxes we need for the extra personnel in schools, police, and fire departments. Then our car and health insurance are inflated to subsidize illegal aliens who don't have driver's licences, and use emergency rooms for free health care. About 30% of illegal immigrants receive some form of entitlement, whether it be WIC, food stamps, Section 8 housing, etc. 25% of the people in our prisons are illegal immigrants. Our social security system, which is already strained, would be drained, with immigrants working only 16 quarters if amnesty were given. Young people have to compete for entry level jobs with people who will work for less because they are illegal. For these reasons I am against illegal immigration, no matter what country they are from. If this makes me a racist, fine, call me a racist. I'll wear it like a badge of honor.

The only people who stand to benefit from illegal immigration are public school teachers and politicians. Teachers, who receive tenure and have pension plans separate from social security - and probably have never had to compete in the work place - like illegal immigrants because it creates more jobs for them. They get to teach bilingual programs, ESL programs, politics, and anything that will prolong the process and allow them to do a mediocre job because - who will notice?

Politicians like them because they see illegal immigrants as future voters that will keep them in power. Our own senators, Kerry and Kennedy, support, and encourage illegal residency at the expense of their own middle class tax paying base, who are fleeing the state in droves .

President Bush is way down in the polls. I believe this is more because of his (what amounts to)

amnesty program than the way the Iraq war is portrayed in the news. If neither party will protect

the American citizens from this invasion, maybe we should seek a third party, but it should not be

the Communist party, because we already have that with Democrats.

The United States has been historically far from a melting pot and more realistically a country of ethnic struggle. Indeed racism does not hate someone just upon their skin color. This explanation is too simplistic.

Native Americans were not considered within United States territorial sovereignty, even though they inhabited the land first. Of course, we all know African Americans were slaves and weren't incorporated into society. In fact, within the north and the south, slavery was a common economic institution. It's not so hard to dehumanize fellow humans for economic gain for self interest.

The struggle was much different for Irish that came only to see signs that say "Irish need not apply."

In the early 20th century, the issue had not been whether Mexicans can cross the border or Haitians could cross Miami's border by raft, risking their lives to cross dangerous waters. It wasn't even about an international student's visa expiring.

Most immigrants entering the United States are illegal. Otherwise, it would just be impossible for some to enter. With the current economic situation and the post 9/11 world, it is understandable that this current animosity would be targeted toward the immigrant population.

Institutions that were set in place for legal immigrants are now being attacked. like the recent ents in bilingual education in public schools fom California to Boston. Tax cuts have caused problems for many programs that could help immigrants resettle.

Anger should be redirected. Jobs have not been lost on a major level from illegal immigrants coming into this country, but rather from outsourcing of industry to countries with cheaper labor. Rarely will illegal immigrants get the jobs that the middle class is seeking. Entry-level positions don't take away from your occupation. Situations that occur in jobs where not using union workers are not the fault of the worker but that of management.

It is ridiculous to argue that bills like the Sensenbrenner Bill saves U.S. eitizens tax money when the bill allocates moneys toward incarcerating illegal aliens, or rather undocumented immigrants.

Although illegal, undocumented immigrants deserve a chance to receive a better life as well as any American. We cannot dehumanize another

# CPCS teachers, classes cut faculty fights for investigation

By: Alexander Black

Days before classes were to be started, 11 part-time faculty members of The College of Public and Community Service (CPCS) at UMass Boston were fired, resulting in a cut of 40% of CPCS classes for the fall semester.

These cuts were made with no warning, and students were surprised to find that when they came to their first classes they were either cancelled or without a teacher. Many remaining classes had teachers with no expertise in the subject re-assigned to teach them.

CPCS Associate Professor Rual E Ybarra, a professor of English and writing, was reassigned to teach two *Participation in Government* courses after the writing portfolio workshops he was set to teach were cancelled.

CPCS Dean Adenrele Awotona was responsible for the cuts and has become the subject of controversy after it was learned that he was fired from his previous job as Dean of Architecture at Southern University-Baton Rouge. This information was not known until after Dean Awotona had been hired, and some faculties say that UMass Boston Provost Paul Fonteyn knew about the termination and did not inform the search committee during the hiring process.

Opponents of the Dean claim that if this information was provided during the hiring process, he would never have been hired.

Supporters of the Dean, however, have said that because of budget problems and low admissions, he had no choice but to make the cuts. But opponents have accused the Dean of trying to eliminate the CPCS altogether, claiming many cut classes had full or above the minimum required enrollment.

The demographic of CPCS is mostly older adults, and some faculty see the cuts as an attempt at assimilation of the CPCS into the UMass Boston mainstream to increase the demographic to posthigh school and international students.

Speaking about the mission of CPCS, Mr. Ybarra said it is to "train students to be social activists and to fight for social justice." The CPCS has had alumni such as Boston mayor Tom Menino.

CPCS uses a competency based system instead of grades, and learning through hands-on experience is given a priority over lectures.

Concerned faculty pushing for an official investigation created

www.savecpcs.org, a blog/information website with up-to-date content concerning the crisis

The union is also conducting an investigation of the crisis, and several faculty members have filed grievances.



#### The Textbook Act

By: Gregory St. Dick, Staff Reporter and President of the SGA

Publishers force students as well as faculty into purchasing unnecessary new editions, with compact discs and workbooks that boost the cost of the needed material.

But there is now hope. The House 1262 Act, to be brought before the House and Senate, is designed to regulate production and pricing of college textbooks.

If passed, publishers must annihilate the shrink wrap (additional materials sold with the textbook in plastic, forcing the consumer to purchase at a higher price), making desired material unbundled and sold separately. It will provide faculty with the cost of every textbook and disclose the difference between the new edition and its previous edition. Publishers will also be required to inform faculty how long a specific book will be in print, giving faculty reasonable time to consider different options.

This bill also puts responsibility on both the institution and faculty. Colleges are encouraged to

publicize book "buy-back" programs on their campus. Faculty will be encouraged to select the best suited and least expensive textbook of equal academic quality for a course and to work with publishers in a timely manner when ordering material.

We as students cannot overlook this issue. To insure this bill's success, we must make our voices heard by our State Representatives. Make a phone call, write a letter, make a petition, inform your friends and family, and make your voice heard. I am also asking for faculty support in getting this bill passed. Discuss this issue among your class and help students form book programs on campus.

Support yourself. Support The House 1262 Textbook Act.



# Sports

#### Mattapan's Williams No Lightweight By Jerome Hicks, Staff Reporter

Devonna Williams, the new Assistant Athletic Director at Roxbury Community College's Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, has already formed a vision and a plan for her new role. Ms. Williams is energized and ready "to give back to the area she borrowed from."

Born and raised in Mattapan, Devonna was the youngest of four children. She had the support of her loving parents. Mr. and Mrs. Williams became involved in Devonna's educational success at an early age. Devonna was a graduate of Boston Latin High School. Her love and passion for the game of basketball pushed her to excel competitively in all her classes, so she continued playing high school sports. Williams, a fouryear star athlete from 1998-1992 while attending Emmanuel College. accumulated 1,135 scoring points, earning her two major accolades in collegiate sports. She was inducted into Emmanuel College's Basketball Hall of Fame as a member of the elite 1,000 Point Club.

Devonna William's resume speaks for itself. She received her educational degrees from Emmanuel College where she obtained her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration Management. In addition, she also obtained her

Master's Degree from Springfield College in Athletic Administration.

Williams was asked in a quick Q&A session what are her short-term goals in the next 3-5 years as the new Assistant Athletic Director? Williams replied, "to have student athletes be able to use Roxbury Community College as a stepping-stone for any four-year institution." She also said her interests consist of re-building the current program to benefit the student athletes needs.

Overall, Devonna is big on education and feels she's a perfect fit to get the job done.



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